

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

SUBJECT: Recovery Act: Local Youth Mentoring Initiative - Grant Application

DEPARTMENT: Fiscal Services

DIVISION: Administration - Fiscal Services

AUTHORIZED BY: Lisa Spriggs

CONTACT: Jennifer Bero

EXT: 7125

MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:

Approve to submit a grant application to the US Department of Justice requesting \$500,000.00 in funding through their Recovery Act: Local Youth Mentoring Initiative; and authorize the County Manager to execute any supporting documents as may be required for the application.

County-wide

Michele Saunders, Jennifer Bero

BACKGROUND:

Funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the US Department of Justice is seeking applications through their Local Youth Mentoring Initiatives Program to support local organizations that develop, implement, or expand local mentoring programs leading to measurable, positive outcomes for at-risk youth. The program furthers the Department's mission by enhancing the capacity of local mentoring programs to develop and implement mentoring strategies to reduce juvenile delinquency and prevent violence.

The Community Services Department would like to pursue the grant to expand existing youth mentoring programs in the Midway and Goldsboro areas. If awarded, the grant would fund the enhancement, expansion and implementation of mentoring strategies to reduce juvenile delinquency, violence, gang participation, school failure, and drop-out rates. A team of representatives from various agencies are collaborating with staff to ensure the program would improve the county's capacity to efficiently provide the mentoring program through training and technical assistance funded by the grant. Those agencies include the Seminole County School Board, Front Porch Initiative, and a vendor currently under contract for services managed by the Prosecution Alternatives for Youth Division. The collaboration with additional agencies who work with the youth as well as business leaders will be identified and included in this project.

The proposed application would request \$500,000.00 over a four-year period. There is no match requirement.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board approve to submit a grant application to the US Department of Justice requesting \$500,000.00 in funding through their Recovery Act: Local Youth Mentoring Initiative; and authorize the County Manager to execute any supporting documents as may be required for the application.

Additionally Reviewed By: No additional reviews
